

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended Claim 23 and Applicant has added new Claims 33-44. Applicant has amended Claim 23 so as to delete "office equipment," after "computer equipment," as shown, in order to correct an inadvertent mistake. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to Claim 23 does not contain new matter. Applicant further respectfully submits that the newly added Claims 33-44 do not contain new matter. Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, as defined by Claims 1-44, is patentable over the prior art.

I. DEFINITIONS:

Applicant uses the phrase "at least one of . . . and . . ." in the claims. In all instances, the phrase "at least one of . . . and . . ." means only one item from the list, or any combination of items in the list.

Applicant respectfully submits that the phrase having the form "at least one of A and B", where each of A and B is

either a term or a phrase, the phrase "at least one of A and B" means "only A, only B, or A and B". In instances in which three or more terms and/or phrases are present in an "at least one of . . . and . . ." phrase, Applicant provides the following example definitions: the phrase "at least one of A, B, and C" means "only A, only B, only C, or any combination of A, B, and C"; the phrase "at least one of A, B, C, and D" means "only A, only B, only C, only D, or any combination of A, B, C, and D"; the phrase "at least one of A, B, C, D, and E" means "only A, only B, only C, only D, only E, or any combination of A, B, C, D, and E", and so on.

For example, in dependent Claim 38, the phrase "at least one of a purchase and a sale" means "only a purchase, only a sale, or a purchase and a sale".

Support for the above definitions can, for example, be found in the originally filed Specification at page 44, line 17, to page 45, line 5. Applicant respectfully submits that the above definitions do not contain new matter.